

# Organizational Structure and Responsibility

## 200.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The organizational structure of the Department is designed to create an efficient means to accomplish the mission and goals and to provide for the best possible service to the public.

## 200.2 DIVISIONS

The Chief of Police is responsible for administering and managing the Hudson Police Department. There are three divisions in the Police Department:

- Administration Division
- Patrol Division
- Investigation Division

### 200.2.1 ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

The Administration Division is commanded by the Chief of Police, which is supervised by the Lieutenant, whose primary responsibility is to provide general management direction and control for the Administration Division, including management of the department budget and the designation of the custodian of records. The Administration Division consists of:

- Chief of Police
- Lieutenant
- Administrative Assistant
- Records

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### 200.2.2 PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Division is commanded by the assigned Lieutenant, whose primary responsibility is to provide general management direction and control for the Patrol Division. The Patrol Division consists of Uniformed Patrol, which includes Traffic enforcement and accident investigations, criminal investigations, and Special events.

### 200.2.3 INVESTIGATION DIVISION

The Investigation Division is commanded by the assigned Lieutenant, whose primary responsibility is to provide general management direction and control for the Investigation Division. The Investigation Division consists of the following:

- Detective Sergeant
- Patrol Level Investigator
- Police School Liaison Officer

# Hudson Police Department

## Hudson Police Dept Policy Manual

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#### **200.3 COMMAND PROTOCOL**

##### **200.3.1 SUCCESSION OF COMMAND**

The Chief of Police exercises command over all personnel in the Department. During planned absences of the Chief of Police the Lieutenant will serve as the acting Chief of Police.

Except when designated as above, the order of command authority in the absence or unavailability of the Chief of Police is as follows:

- (a) Senior Sergeant

##### **200.3.2 UNITY OF COMMAND**

The principles of unity of command ensure efficient supervision and control within the Department. Generally, each employee shall be accountable to one supervisor at any time for a given assignment or responsibility. Except where specifically delegated authority may exist by policy or special assignment (e.g., Canine, SWAT), any supervisor may temporarily direct any subordinate if an operational necessity exists.

##### **200.3.3 ORDERS**

Members shall respond to and make a good faith and reasonable effort to comply with lawful orders of superior officers and other proper authority.

##### **200.3.4 UNLAWFUL AND CONFLICTING ORDERS**

No member is required to obey any order that outwardly appears to be in direct conflict with any federal law, state law or local ordinance. Following an unlawful order is not a defense and does not relieve the member from criminal or civil prosecution or administrative discipline. If the legality of an order is in doubt, the affected member shall ask the issuing supervisor to clarify the order or confer with a higher authority. Responsibility for refusal to obey rests with the member, who shall subsequently be required to justify the refusal.

Unless it would jeopardize the safety of any individual, members who are presented with a lawful order that is in conflict with a previous lawful order, department policy or other directive, shall respectfully inform the issuing supervisor of the conflict. The issuing supervisor is responsible for either resolving the conflict or clarifying that the lawful order is intended to countermand the previous lawful order or directive, in which case the member is obliged to comply. Members who are compelled to follow a conflicting lawful order after having given the issuing supervisor the opportunity to correct the conflict are not held accountable for disobedience of the lawful order or directive that was initially issued.

The person countermanding the original order shall notify, the person issuing the original order, indicating the action taken and the reason.